

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 10954 010618Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
SSM-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 IO-13 /081 W
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P R 301515Z JUN 77
FM AMEMMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6789
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USIA WASHDC
NSC WHITE HOUSE

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USIA FOR IOP/M

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EG US IS
SUBJECT: MORE PRESS REACTION TO US MIDDLE EAST STATEMENTS

REF: CAIRO 10866

SUMMARY: PRESS FOCUSSES ON "CRISIS" IN US-ISRAEL RELATIONS
IN WAKE OF JUNE 27 US STATEMENT ON MIDDLE EAST. TODAY'S
LIMITED EDITORIAL COMMENTARY REFLECTS WELCOME "CLEAREST USG
STATEMENT YET" RECEIVING IN MOST EGYPTIAN CIRCLES, BUT CALLS
IT ONLY A BEGINNING. END SUMMARY.

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1. CONTINUING MAJOR PRESS COVERAGE OF USG STATEMENTS ON ME
(PARTICULARLY JUNE 27) SUGGESTS DISMAY IN ISRAEL AND RAGING
CONTROVERSY IN US. AMB DINITZ REPORTEDLY REFERRED TO DIFFERENCES
BETWEEN US AND ISRAEL AS "MAJOR AND NO LONGER CONCEALABLE."
RABIN PRONOUNCEMENT ON "UNPRECEDENTED US RUDENESS" AMPLY
COVERED ALONG WITH ISRAELI PRESS ATTACKS ON US "BIAS".
THRUST OF REPORTING POINTS TO "CRISIS" AND IMMINENT CONFRONTATION

IN US-ISRAEL RELATIONS.

2. REPORTING NOTES USG CLARIFICATION THAT JUNE 27 STATEMENT DOES NOT CONNOTE CHANGE IN POLICY AND ATTRIBUTES CLARIFICATION TO "FEVERISH ZIONIST EFFORTS". AKHBAR CITES NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIAL "ATTACKING CARTER AND DEFENDING ISRAEL" AS EXAMPLE, AND PUBLISHES TEXT ON PAGE ONE.

3. AKHBAR ALSO REPORTS FOR FIRST TIME, AND ATTRIBUTES TO SECRETARY VANCE (THEY MAY MEAN ATHERTON), STATEMENT THAT "SINCE PLO REFUSES RECOGNIZE RIGHT OF ISRAEL TO EXIST, USG DOES NOT CONSIDER IT WORTHY TO PARTICIPATE IN NEGOTIATIONS DEALING WITH ESTABLISHMENT OF PALESTINIAN HOMELAND, BUT US PREPARED TO CHANGE ITS ATTITUDE PROVIDED PLO DOES ALSO."

4. AHAM ALSO FOCUSES ON NEW EC STATEMENT, OF WHICH IT CLAIMS FULL KNOWLEDGE, REPORTING THAT STATEMENT STRESSES IMPOSSIBILITY OF PEACE WITHOUT PALESTINIAN HOMELAND, CALLS FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL TO 1967 BOUNDARIES AND RECOGNITION OF LEGITIMATE PALESTINIAN RIGHTS. AHAM FOUND STATEMENT STRIKINGLY DIFFERENT FROM EC'S NOVEMBER 1973 STATEMENT.

5. EDITORIAL COMMENTARY ON JUNE 27 STATEMENT, LIMITED TO AHAM, WAS CAUTIOUS BUT UPBEAT UNDER TITLE "MORE CLEARLY DEFINED AMERICAN STANCE." STATEMENT SEEN AS USG REACTION TO ISRAELI INTRANSIGENCE, DIRECTED SPECIFICALLY AT BEGIN AND ISRAELI LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUPPORTERS IN CONGRESS. IT IS "CLEAREST STATEMENT ISSUED THUS FAR BY ANY US GOVERNMENT... REGARDING PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED TO REACH A SETTLEMENT. STATEMENT IS VERY CLOSE TO SPIRIT OF UN RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338. HOWEVER, IT REPRESENTS ONLY HUMBLE BEGINNING ON LONG ROAD WHICH US MUST NEGOTIATE IN DEALING WITH ISRAEL", WHICH STILL DOES NOT APPRECIATE NEW REALITIES CREATED BY OCTOBER WAR.

6. COMMENT: AHAM COMMENTS REFLECT GENERAL SATISFACTION HERE THAT US APPROACHING DETAILED PRESENTATION OF ITS VIEWS ON SETTLEMENT THAT EGYPTIANS DESIRE. MEANWHILE, EGYPTIANS SEEM ABLE TO RELISH PROSPECTS OF CARTER-BEGIN "CONFRONTATION", LEAVING WORRISOME POSSIBILITY OF ISRAELI REFUSAL TO NEGOTIATE AS BRIDGE TO BE CROSSED LATER.
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Sent Date: 30-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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